

## Probability theory 1

22/9/21

We have known about:

Random experiment, Sample space, Sample points,  
Event.

Some examples are shown.

Classical definition of probability

Consider a random experiment whose sample space  $\Omega$  has a finite cardinality and all outcomes of the experiment are equally likely. Then for an event  $A$  (that is  $A \subseteq \Omega$ ), its probability is defined by

$$P(A) = \frac{\#A}{\#\Omega}$$

where  $\#E$  denotes the cardinality of the set  $E$ .

Proceed with some more examples.

- Example: Let there be 8 distinct balls and they are put into 8 distinct boxes randomly. What is the probability that each box will be occupied?
- The sample space  $\Omega$  has cardinality  $8^8$ .

$\bigcirc \quad \bigcirc \quad \dots \quad \bigcirc$   
ball 1 ball 2 ball 8

$\boxed{\phantom{000}} \quad \boxed{\phantom{000}} \quad \dots \quad \boxed{\phantom{000}}$   
box 1 box 2 box 8

The event  $A$  given in the question may be performed in  $8 \times 7 \times \dots \times 1 = 8!$  ways.

So, using the classical definition of probability we get,

$$P(A) = \frac{\#A}{\#\Omega} = \frac{8!}{8^8}.$$

• In general, placing  $n$  distinct balls into  $n$  distinct boxes such that each box is occupied has probability  $\frac{n!}{n^n}$ .

Example: Two cards are chosen at random from a deck (standard) of cards without replacement. What is the probability that the two cards either have the same suite or the same rank?

• The cardinality of the sample space  $\Omega$ , is

$$\binom{52}{2}$$

Suppose  $\#E_s :=$  number of ways to get 2 same suite cards

$$= 4 \binom{13}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\#E_r &:= \text{number of ways to get 2 same rank cards} \\ &= 13 \binom{4}{2}\end{aligned}$$

It is clear that it is impossible to get 2 same rank and same suits cards.

Therefore, our required event  $E$  has cardinality  $\#E_s + \#E_r$ .

Using the classical definition of probability we get,

$$P(E) = \frac{\#E}{\#S} = \frac{4\binom{13}{2} + 13\binom{4}{2}}{\binom{52}{2}} = \frac{5}{17}.$$

Example: A fair die is rolled 5 times. Find the probability that the sum of the numbers observed is 15.

The number of possible ways in which 15 is the sum of the numbers observed in 5 rolls of the die equals the coefficient of  $x^{15}$  in

$$f(x) = (x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots + x^6)^5, \quad |x| < 1$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 2 & + & 4 & + & 3 & + & 3 & + & 3 & = 15 \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & \\ (x + \overset{\textcircled{2}}{x^2} + \dots + x^6) & (x + x^2 + \overset{\textcircled{4}}{x^4} + x^6) & \dots & & & & (x + x^2 + \overset{\textcircled{3}}{x^3} + x^6) & \sim x^{15} \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & & & & & \uparrow & \text{---} \textcircled{\times} \end{array}$$

(The number of elements in the sample space  $=: \# \Omega = 6^5$ )

⑧ ~~Coefficient~~ of  $x^5$  in the polynomial  $x^5 (1+x+x^2+\dots+x^5)^5$   
 Coefficient

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$$= x^5 \left\{ \frac{(1-x^6)}{(1-x)} \right\}^5 \left[ \begin{array}{l} (1-x)(1+x+\dots+x^5) \\ = 1-x^6 \\ x \neq 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow = x^5 (1-x)^{-5} (1-x^6)^5$$

Coefficient of  $x^{10}$  in the polynomial  $(1-x)^{-5} (1-x^6)^5, |x| < 1$

$$\Rightarrow = \left( 1 + 5x + \frac{5(5+1)}{2!} x^2 + \frac{5(5+1)(5+2)}{3!} x^3 + \frac{5(5+1)(5+2)(5+3)}{4!} x^4 + \dots \right) x^{10}$$

$\binom{5+3}{4}^{11}$

$$\left( \underbrace{1}_{\uparrow 4} - \cancel{5x^6} + \dots \right)$$

$$= \binom{5+9}{10} - 5 \binom{5+3}{4} = 651 = \#E$$

Using the classical definition of probability.

$$P(E) = \frac{\#E}{\#\Omega} = \frac{651}{6^5}$$